



# OUR CHINA STORIES

## 我们的中国故事

**Copeland, Audrey**

**Adoptee**

**Oklahoma**

**Adoption place: Guangdong Province, Maogang Social Welfare Institute, in Maoming**

**Adoption date: March 2008**

**Age at adoption: 15 months old.**

My name's Audrey, and I'm 9 years old. I was adopted on March 24, 2008. I have a great family and many good friends in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. I was adopted too, like some kids from China. My family adopted me when I was about 2 years old from Guangdong Province.

Back then, in China, a mother was only allowed to have one baby. So, mothers with another baby left them in the care of an orphanage. That's what happened to me. But then a family wanted to have a baby. And so they adopted me! I've grown up since then and I don't remember much. But I do remember how much love and care they gave to me when my Mom and Dad adopted me.

Thinking about my story makes me happy. If I was still in China, I wouldn't have made such good friends in Oklahoma. I sometimes wish that I had brothers or sisters. But who knows, maybe I do! Someday, I might get to meet them.

Telling my adoption story has led me to know for sure--everyone's story is unique, and it's fun to learn about others' perspectives. Everyone's story is different, but this is mine.

**Hall, Lori**

**Oklahoma**

**Adoptive parent (mother of Audrey Copeland)**

I always wanted to adopt a child. Long before I was married, while still a student in college, I told my parents I knew I wanted to adopt and I hoped to adopt from China. I'm not sure what first piqued my desire, but it was there.

Many years later, when I finally married in my late thirties, my husband and I began the long journey that eventually led to our daughter. Through the process we gained many

new friends, learned a lot about patience and developed a trust in the perfect timing of it all.

We did a lot of soul searching as we waited three years for Audrey. In the end it was just about making our family the very best way possible. Though we all have a story about how or why our families came to be, I like to remind myself to take a back seat because this is really her story. And hers to tell or not.



Audrey Copeland